

# Eurail Passes

## What Eurail Pass to get:

There is no easier and more affordable way to travel in Europe than by train. European trains are known to be reliable, fast, safe and comfortable. A Eurail Pass grants you access to Europe's ever growing network of routes and destinations at affordable rates.

For our Innsbruck Summer School students, we generally recommend the

### **Global (Youth) FLEXI Pass for 10 days,**

which allows you to travel on 10 days within 2 months in 21 different countries. A Youth Pass is for everyone under 26.

Please check the following link for more information on the Eurail Passes:

<https://www.raileurope.com/>

As a Eurail Pass holder, you are entitled to a huge variety of discounts and other additional benefits:

<https://www.raileurope.com/train-tickets/rail-passes/>

## Where to get the Eurail Pass:

You can purchase your Eurail Pass through ITS Tours or other travel/sales agents:

To contact ITS Tours:

Phone: 979-764-9400

Email: [UNO@SuddenLinkMail.com](mailto:UNO@SuddenLinkMail.com)

You must purchase a Eurail Pass prior to departure to Europe. The passes that Innsbruck Summer School students purchase at ITS tours will be brought to Innsbruck and handed out at our Eurail Pass orientation meeting during the first week of the Summer School.

Please note that if you are planning on using your Eurail Pass before the program, you need to make your own arrangements to receive your Eurail Pass in time.

## How it works:

Before you can start using your personal Eurail Pass, it must be **activated or validated**. The Flexipass will be valid for 2 months from the date of activation/validation. A railway official at a ticket window or a Eurail Aid Office can activate your Eurail Pass. For more information on activating/validating your Eurail Pass:

<https://www.raileurope.com/l-europe-en-train/faq/>

Flexipasses:

A calendar indicating the number of days you can use your pass will be printed on your ticket when you activate it. You will have to fill in the dates of travel every time you use your Eurail Pass. We will explain how to fill in the passes correctly at the Eurail Pass orientation meeting.

## **Reservations:**

Although your Eurail Pass gives you access to rail travel in the participating countries where your pass is valid, certain trains require you to reserve a seat (or bed) for an extra fee (prices for seat reservations are usually under €5). To find out whether or not reservations are required, check an online Timetable (<http://www.oebb.at/> in Austria) or ask at a railway station. Trains that require reservations are marked with the letter “R”. Since trains are a primary mean to travel in Europe, and July/August are heavy travelling months, we strongly recommend you reserve seats before every trip, especially when you are planning long distance trips. If you don't, you may end up having to sit in the aisles or on the floor!

For more information about reservations:

<https://www.raileurope.com/book-now/article/passholders-seat-reservation-guide>

## **Train types:**

High-speed trains:

Comfortable and great for long distances. Usually require reservations at extra cost

Express trains:

Most common trains, especially in Austria. Sometimes require reservations

Local trains:

Slow, but easy – no reservations required

Night trains:

Serve Europe's major cities and offer a variety of sleeping options (at extra cost). Night trains are a great way to travel without losing precious sightseeing time during the days.

For more information about train travel in general, you can also visit this site:

<https://www.raileurope.com/1-europe-en-train/faq/>

## **Offices:**

There is an official Eurail office located very conveniently at the Innsbruck main train station (*Hauptbahnhof*). They are open daily during the following times:

Mon-Fri: 5:45 am - 9:40 pm

Sat-Sun: 6:15 am - 9:40 pm